

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 10691 281244Z

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ACTION CAB-05

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8878

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, XT

SUBJ: CIVAIR: ECAC COMMENTS TO CAB ON OTC'S

ECAC SECRETARIAT HAS ASKED EMBASSY TO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING
MESSAGE ON ITS BEHALF TO DOCKETS SECTION OF CIVIL
AERONAUTICS BOARD:

QUOTE:

DEAR SIRs,

I WISH TO REFER TO THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
DOCKET NO. 27135 DATED 10 APRIL 1975 CONTAINING PRO-
POSALS TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE
MAKING (SPDR-38) DEALING WITH ONE-STOP INCLUSIVE TOUR
CHARTER (OTC). CERTAIN OF THESE PROPOSALS INsofar AS
THEY DEAL WITH NORTH ATLANTIC OPERATIONS DIRECTLY AFFECT
ECAC.

ECAC BELIEVES THAT THE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE
NORTH ATLANTIC CHARTER MARKET HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLY
ASSISTED BY THE CLOSE HARMONIZATION OF REGULATIONS
APPLIED BY THE AUTHORITIES OF CANADA, THE UNITED STATES
AND ECAC MEMBER STATES IN CONSIDERING
APPLICATIONS FROM CARRIERS FOR NORTH ATLANTIC
INCLUSIVE TOUR CHARTERS. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE FIXED
MINIMUM PRICES TO BE CHARGED TO INDIVIDUAL TOURISTS
TAKING PART IN SUCH CHARTERS HAVE REGULATED THEIR
GROWTH IN AN ORDERLY WAY SO THAT THERE HAS NOT
BEEN UNDUE EFFECT ON NORTH ATLANTIC SCHEDULED SERVICES.
ECAC THEREFORE BELIEVES THAT THE CONTINUED REGULATION
OF THE MINIMUM PRICES TO BE CHARGED FOR ALL TYPES OF
INCLUSIVE TOUR CHARTER AS A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF THE
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PAGE 02 PARIS 10691 281244Z

RELEVANT SCHEDULED SERVICE FARES WOULD BE A SATISFACTORY

WAY OF MAINTAINING PROPER BALANCE BETWEEN THE GROWTH OF SUCH CHARTERS AND THE ADEQUATE LEVEL OF SCHEDULED SERVICES ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC.

IT IS THEREFORE WITH SOME CONCERN THAT WE HAVE NOTED THE PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE FOR NORTH ATLANTIC OTC'S THE SO-CALLED 110 PERCENT RULE AND TO SUBSTITUTE A MINIMUM PRICE EQUAL TO THE CHARTER PRICE OF A PARTICIPANT SEAT PLUS US DOLLARS 15 FOR EACH NIGHT OF THE TOUR. IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO A SITUATION WHERE THERE WAS NO DEFINITE MINIMUM PRICE APPLIED TO SIMILAR OTC'S, WHERE THERE MIGHT BE UNDUE DIVERSION FROM SCHEDULED SERVICES, AND WHERE THERE WOULD BE A REAL THREAT TO THE CONTINUED ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOTAL NORTH ATLANTIC MARKET.

ECAC THEREFORE BELIEVES IT WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC AND THE AIRLINES FOR THERE TO BE HARMONIZED REGULATIONS FOR ALL TYPES OF NORTH ATLANTIC INCLUSIVE TOUR CHARTERS INCLUDING THE PROPOSED OTC'S. ECAC CONSIDERS THAT SUCH A MINIMUM PRICE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED FOR THE TIME BEING AS A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF THE RELEVANT SCHEDULED SERVICE FARES AND HOPED THAT ON RECONSIDERATION THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES WILL BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THEIR ORIGINAL PROPOSAL IN SPDR-38 FOR MINIMUM OTC PRICES ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC.

YOURS TRULY, VICTOR VERES' PRESIDENT OF ECAC. UNQUOTE
RUSH

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